

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4592

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUXEMBOURG 0656

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, LU (VOUEL, RAYMOND)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MR. RAYMOND VOUEL

1. VOUEL IS VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT OF LUXEMBOURG AND MINISTER OF FINANCE. HE IS ALSO THE DE FACTO LEADER OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY (POSL) WHICH IS THE SENIOR PARTNER IN THE PRESENT GOVERNMENTAL COALITION. VOUEL WILL BE IN THE U.S. FROM LATE AUGUST UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6. HE PLANS TO VISIT NEW YORK CITY BRIEFLY IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY DURING LATE AUGUST, THEN PROCEED TO WASHINGTON AUGUST 29 FOR THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND MEETINGS. HE WILL STAY IN WASHINGTON UNTIL SEPTEMBER 4 WHEN HE WILL GO TO NEW YORK TO HEAD TEMPORARILY THE GOL DELEGATION TO THE UN SPECIAL SESSION. HE PLANS TO RETURN TO LUXEMBOURG ON SEPTEMBER 6.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE ON AUGUST 21, VOUEL SAID HE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO MEET WITH STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND OTHERS DURING HIS STAY IN WASHINGTON. HE DOES NOT YET KNOW THE FULL SCHEDULE OF IMF MEETINGS AND SOCIAL EVENTS, BUT IS QUITE WILLING TO FIND TIME FOR MEETINGS WITH U. S. OFFICIALS AS THEY CAN BE ARRANGED. HE WILL BE STAYING AT THE WATERGATE HOTEL FROM AUGUST 29 UNTIL SEPTEMBER 4. IF APPOINTMENTS AT DEPARTMENT AND ELSEWHERE ARE POSSIBLE, EMBASSY REQUESTS

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THAT MRS. SHIRLEY, EUR/NE, CONTACT VOUEL AT WATERGATE

TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY CONVENIENT SCHEDULE. HE IS LEAVING
AUGUST 22 FOR EC FINMIN MEETING IN VENICE AND WILL NOT
RETURN TO LUXEMBOURG BEFORE HE GOES TO THE STATES.

3. COMMENT: AFTER PRIME MINISTER THORN, VOUEL IS MOST
POWERFUL MEMBER OF THE GOL. AS FINANCE MINISTER HE IS
DEEPLY INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY FINANCE AND TRADE QUESTIONS
AND IS INFLUENTIAL ON ALL POLICY MATTERS AFFECTING THE
GOL. ALTHOUGH HE HAS ATTENDED MEETINGS IN NEW YORK AND
WASHINGTON, HE HAS NEVER BEEN RECEIVED AT DEPARTMENT OF
STATE OR ELSEWHERE IN USG. IF IT IS POSSIBLE, BELIEVE
MEETING WOULD BE USEFUL WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMEN,
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
BUFFUM AND/OR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE AND
OTHERS THE DEPARTMENT MAY SUGGEST. PHILLIPS

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